



#131 RECEIVED
1/2/03 JAN 02 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TECH CENTER 1600/290

In re Application of:

Beach, et al.
Serial No: 09/866,557
Filed: May 24, 2001
For: Methods and Compositions for RNA Interference

Art Unit: 1637
Attorney Docket No. GNCA-P02-007
Examiner: Jezia Riley

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below:

December 19, 2002
Date of Signature
and of Mail Deposit

Brent LaBarge

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This amendment is being filed in reply to the outstanding Office Action, mailed July 19, 2002, in connection with the above application. Petition for a four-month extension of time and appropriate fees are filed concurrently herewith. Please enter the following amendments:

In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims (whether or not amended), are presented below.

Please delete claims 2, 5-8, and 11 without prejudice.

B1

1. (Amended) A method for attenuating expression of a target gene in a mammalian cell, comprising introducing double stranded RNA (dsRNA) into the cell in an amount sufficient to attenuate expression of the target gene, wherein the dsRNA